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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Frank Hulstaert Eugeen VanMechelen

Hugo Vanderstichele

Serial No.: 09/786,481

Filed: March 5, 2001

RECEIVED Confirmation No.: 8708

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TECH CENTER 1600 2980 aminer: NICHOLS, C.J

Group Art Unit: 1647

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11362.0034.PCUS00 (INNS034)

For: TAU AS A MARKER FOR EARLY CNS

DAMAGE

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 16, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2002 for which the three-month date for response is March 16, 2003.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11362.0034.PCUS00.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.